

## Congratulations 1997 Chief Petty Officer Selectees

# Direct Line

Vol. 17, No. 5

"To The Senior Enlisted Leadership of the Navy"

August 1997

## Welcome Aboard New Chief Selectees!

It is with a great deal of pride that I congratulate the 1997 Chief Petty Officer Selectees. I want to add my personal 'Bravo Zulu' to the many already proffered. In a few short weeks you will be welcomed into the Chiefs Mess. You have every right to be proud! And remember, people may not believe everything you say, but they will believe everything you do. Do whatever you do proudly and you will set the course and speed of our Navy.

### *Congratulations and Bravo Zulu*



*Angelo Jo Betts pins anchors on the collar of her husband, AWC(AW/NAC) Robert W. Betts, Atlantic Fleet Sea Sailor of the Year. For more information about the 1997 Sailors of the Year, see page 22. US Navy photo by PH3 Damon Moritz.*

## **Taking CPO Initiation Season To The Finish Line**

As you receive this "Direct Line," CPO Initiation Season is rapidly passing. I trust that sponsors are paying close attention to their duties, various committees are working and that the selectees are very, very busy. Despite all the work we have done and the successes of previous Initiation Seasons, many still have questions. I have tried never to duck any of the hard questions. A few of the most frequent questions have, however, been difficult to fully respond to. This at least in part because we have been both leading an evolution of the CPO Initiation tradition and simultaneously eliminating some very negative issues. Ideally we need to carefully examine the results of each iteration before proceeding, to ensure we preserve and enhance the good, and excise only the unproductive and bad. Preserving the good means many things, including preserving (or in some cases restoring) the fun. The toughest questions center on avoiding hazing and preserving tradition. "How can I conduct a 'traditional' initiation without compromising our values?" In this issue of "Direct Line," I address these questions as completely as I am able. I am concerned that we all understand what hazing IS NOT so that we do not become fearful or tentative in our leadership style. My intention is to provoke your thinking on important subjects. Please share your thoughts with me. Additionally, I ask for your feedback on "Doing it Proudly" (see page 13), so I can share better ways to conduct a ball, dining-in or khaki night out. Also, please work with your Chaplain to make the worship service options being offered is a success (see pages 10-11).

We have only a few short weeks to accomplish all the goals of CPO Initiation Season, all the while performing every part of our regular assignment. Thanks for all you are doing. Stay fit! Stay proud!

All the best!

JOHN HAGAN

### The Inside story . . .

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# Understanding What Hazing Is Not

## Do Not Allow Fear Of Hazing To Make Your Leadership Tentative

As words often do, hazing has evolved in meaning over the past few years. Hazing has not always been such a horrible word, to many of us it once inferred nothing more than spontaneous, good natured, playful behavior which, although immature, was not cause to go to GQ. It was, we believed, just horseplay, which may have been annoying, but was acceptable, and in some circumstances, even desirable. But too often good natured, well intended events "got out of hand," as various scenarios played out. A failure to recognize that the presence of women made many previous activities unacceptable, and failure to deal with other changes in societal and cultural norms were among the contributing factors. A perversion of the original purpose of the event was too often the result.

Various stories played out in the media and the lessons learned were reflected in leadership discussions, policy statements, General Military Training, etc. By now we are all aware of what hazing is: conduct intended to cause harm; inflict unjust punishment, demean or be physically painful. It is *uninvited, unwanted* and it is **PROHIBITED**.

Precisely because we are beginning to be so familiar with what hazing is and so extremely wary of "crossing the line," it may be useful to take another view for balance and perspective.

Let me dwell on what hazing is not and why it is important not to allow too broad a definition from affecting the use of the most appropriate leadership tools:

- Firm, proactive, aggressive leadership is *not* hazing, nor is it demeaning, out of style or 'old fashioned.' It is one of many necessary leadership tools which a successful Chief Petty Officer must possess. Whether a Boatswain's Mate on an unrep rig or a Personnelman in the ships office, there will be occasions when the Chief must use strong, assertive, non-negotiable, deadline oriented, "do it now"

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*Your contributions and feedback are welcome.  
Please call or write.*

leadership. There are some who appear to believe reverting to such a stern method is **NEVER** permissible and would constitute hazing. Without a doubt, it would be a mistake to think that inflexible, stern leadership should be allowed to dominate one's style. It may well then be hazing (or worse). But it is suitable, appropriate and necessary in certain instances in our day-to-day Navy life and for certain carefully considered instances in CPO Initiation Season. The Chief must be capable, when necessary, of using the most demanding, authoritative leadership style.

- Active, vigorous, challenging physical fitness training is *not* hazing. This includes vigorous PT which challenges the selectee to attain a higher level of fitness. To exercise to exhaustion all the time, or PT vigorously in extreme heat or to do unsound exercises would not only be hazing, but extremely stupid. But to require a selectee to repeat a set of pushups because they were not done to the standard is not hazing, but it is useful training. Physical fitness training presents tremendous opportunities for pride building and great teamwork training.
- Holding Sailors firmly accountable for completing taskings is *not* hazing. We cannot accomplish the goals of CPO Initiation Season and accept non-compliance of any training assignments. Assigned reading must be done, deadlines for other projects must be met and objectives accomplished or there must be consequences consistent with the situation. Accountability may well inconvenience or even occasionally embarrass, but it is important that the accountability be appropriate and that it yield results. There are too many instances of CPO selectees not preparing for CPOIC or other taskings which are not properly addressed by the instructor or CMC, etc. Of course, to have only one harsh response for all selectee failings would be over reaction and ineffective and would be hazing.
- Finally, a creative, well planned, structured, well led, court style Initiation involving selectees who are *voluntarily* participating is *not* hazing. The challenge in

**See "Understanding Hazing," page 4**

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## ***Honoring Tradition . . .***

### **Requires Personal Knowledge, Understanding, Hard Work, Study**

Change and tradition are two words which would seem to be antonyms, virtually polar opposites or mutually exclusive concepts. But as we ponder the origin, importance and meaning of tradition, we realize that *change is really the activating agent for tradition. Change is the reason traditions are born and the reason they sometimes evolve.*

Tradition is most often defined as a long established custom or practice. We all know that in reality it is much, much more. I have my own personal definition arrived at after much thought and discussion. Tradition is that part of our past which we preserve, often ceremonially, for the purpose of honoring the memory of a great deed, preserving a link to our seafaring past (for spiritual or historical purposes or both). Tradition must either emphasize the importance of our Core Values and ideals or add value to Sailors lives or to the Naval forces. In any case, to qualify as a tradition, it must be codified and defined in a systematic and verifiable way and it must be taught.

Just doing it the way it was done before neither honors nor preserves tradition. Honoring tradition first requires an understanding of the tradition; where did it begin, how and for what reason has it been preserved? Honoring tradition requires genuine effort, rational thought and, in some cases, hard study. Customs which are passed down by "word of mouth" are no more than myths to be argued about. They are not traditions. Tradition must be taught for the dual purpose of ensuring young Sailors learn it and no one perverts it.

Traditions don't just materialize, they evolve over time and at some point they stabilize in a structure which is accepted and formalized.

Side boys are a great, unique Navy tradition. Two rows of proud Sailors standing tall, responding as the boatswain pipes the side. The stars on their jumper collars shine. The creases in their bell bottom blue trousers run straight and true. The boatswain, wearing a gleaming white macramé lanyard is smartly executing the ceremony with calls from his silver pipe as the honored guest strides through the side boys, pausing and holding a salute until the pipe ceases. All within hearing stand in respectful silence, and all in uniform salute sharply while the boatswain's pipe is in the air. The ships bell or ceremonial bell is bonged. The exact, correctly phrased words are spoken, ending with "Arriving," or "Departing." The focus of every person present is on the side boys and the honored guest.

The guest is truly honored by all who stop, face the ceremonial spot, and salute sharply. Those who understand and appreciate the event are truly honoring tradition. Those who do not are simply complying with a protocol.

Many separate aspects of our heritage are focused into this one traditional arrival/departure ceremony. But the ceremony, EVOLVED from a much different act in which Sailors, physically lowered and raised a boarding platform so that senior individuals arriving did not have to climb the rope ladder from the launch. It is not a less valuable tradition because we discarded the ropes, pulleys and platforms. It would have been cumbersome and counterproductive to preserve this entire event, not to mention a little silly. What happened in the case of side boys happens to some degree to all traditions, currently, CPO Initiation and Crossing the Line ceremonies (see page 16) are undergoing change . . . change which, if properly led and monitored, will make the tradition prouder, stronger and more valuable to our Navy.

The importance of anticipating, thoughtfully leading and directing any evolution of tradition cannot be overemphasized. For example, for too many years, CPO Initiation "evolved" haphazardly. Changes were not thoughtfully considered. For that reason it was rapidly headed for extinction. In retrospect, in the case of CPO Initiation, perhaps the most regrettable aspect of what has happened is how many opportunities to do good were lost during the times we were off track. It behooves us, as leaders to be thoughtfully and honestly introspective about the entire process of CPO Initiation. For those of us who participated, watched or even led "bad" initiations in the past, today's Initiation Season is not only an important obligation, but an opportunity to partially atone for those previous missed opportunities. Instead of participating in CPO Initiation in a leadership role, many of us just turned our back and walked away. But because many Chiefs' didn't walk away and because our Navy leadership was patient and understanding of the tremendous potential of this great tradition, we have successfully preserved CPO Initiation. Since we began to actively lead and direct the changes we have ensured it's revival and made believers of many.

CPO Initiation is taught by doing and taught well by doing it well, thereby ensuring it accomplishes the stated goals of congratulating, welcoming, inspiring, improving and motivating the selectee and everyone in the whole mess while simultaneously teaching leadership, building esprit de corps, camaraderie, promoting unity and building teamwork.

**When a tradition is "modified," changes may understandably be perceived as a negative.**

It can be viewed as politically correctness or in other, even more onerous terms, changes which appear to be in

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## ***Understanding Hazing***

this area is to thoroughly plan, thoughtfully structure and attentively lead the evolution. A certain amount of spontaneity is good and necessary and makes the event memorable. Too much spontaneity is a lot like no one is in charge and can derail the entire process. This makes the choice of central figures (Judge, MAA, Bailiff, etc.) very important. It is also necessary to anticipate the most likely contingencies and to ensure that each activity is firmly overseen by the right Chief and all activities are generally monitored by the CMC or COB. A good mix of a few of the old, tried and true props, skits, jokes and gags combined with a few new, creative twists will make a great, fun-filled day which also includes a few lessons in teamwork, humility and problem solving. All of it must be above any reasonable criticism and it cannot be accomplished without careful planning and energetic execution. Creative selectee competitions, impromptu leadership demonstrations, and unrehearsed talent shows make great additions to Initiation Day. The CMC must, of course, control the tempo and all other aspects of Initiation Day. It is important to limit the actual Initiation Day activities in time and ensure it does not get tedious or boring.

We can no more use “fear of hazing” as an excuse not to plan and conduct CPO Initiation than we can use “fear of failure” to evade fulfilling any responsibility we take on. It is unacceptable to find CPO Initiation “too difficult” to conduct.

No one wants our Chiefs’ Mess to be colorless, sterile or antiseptic. Through careful planning and enthusiastic participation, we can ensure we avoid that fate. In the process we will prove that we, the Chiefs, are resilient, resourceful, and tenacious. More importantly, we will ensure that we preserve the right and reputation necessary to conduct a valid CPO mess tradition, have a little fun and be completely trusted while we do it. It is worth the effort!

## **Honoring Tradition**

reaction to social, cultural or other pressures. That is why it is important to anticipate, lead and direct changes to traditional events and activities and to do it very, very thoughtfully. In the case of CPO Initiation, we got a late start in leading and directing change into value added activity, which captured all the right parts of our past and were still consistent with our Core Values of Honor, Courage and Commitment.

For example, the origin of CPO Charge books dates to the World War II practice of CPO hopefuls to keep a notebook and record the wisdom and advice of Chiefs in preparation for advancement into the Chiefs Mess. The contents of this book would range from professional notes to description of the ships configuration, or aircraft maintenance data to sage advice on leadership responsibilities. CPO hopefuls were encouraged to go to every Chief on the ship or in the squadron and ask for advice on how to get ready for Chief. It was a kind of ad hoc, self initiated combination of the Professional Development Board and Command Advancement Board and it fit well with the WWII practice of advancing some highly qualified Petty Officers to Chief, based on their performance on board. After the war, when advancement to E7 (E7 was the highest enlisted paygrade until 1958) was centralized, the practice was retained and modified into a “post selection” process. For many years, charge books were generally nothing more than government issue log books, which were sporadically carried by selectees. They became the center of much negative activity. In my own experience, seldom were the contents of a charge book worth preserving. Yet the roots of this practice were in something worthwhile. Before self destruction occurred, it evolved into today’s practice of constructing a book or box which displays ingenuity and pride. It is now a great tradition . . .

The “traditional” CPO charge book of today and the great memories they contain “changed” over time in the direction we, the Chiefs’ mess, directed it. No one would argue that the change in charge books is a bad thing or a part of the politically correct movement. No, on the contrary, the changes happened and were accepted because they were lead by the mess and they were right for us. And because they had a structure to evolve from, not much energy was required. It would have been infinitely more difficult to institute such a practice Navy-wide from scratch.

# ***Enlisted History:*** **Honor, Courage and Commitment**

by **DCCM(SW) Bob Conklin, USN**  
**Force Master Chief, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet**

*This article is reprinted from "Surface Navy Sitrep," June/July 1997, the official newsletter of the Surface Navy Association.*

## **USS THE SULLIVANS**

I've just returned from the commissioning of USS THE SULLIVANS. It was an impressive ceremony, and more than that, it was a look back at a part of our heritage – the battle for Guadalcanal. In the Hollywood history of World War II, Guadalcanal was an air and ground campaign. In reality, more Americans died in Guadalcanal waters than on land.

In his book, "The Lost Ships of Guadalcanal," Robert Ballard states "For all the fame of its air and land battles, Guadalcanal is at least as compelling a story of Sailors and warships . . . of acts of individual heroism and compassion, of the terrifying confusion of a night naval action, of the unparalleled horror of being trapped in a stricken burning ship. It is one of the great naval stories of any war."

The sinking of JUNEAU and the terrible sacrifice of one family as a result of that engagement was recognized by THE SULLIVANS commissioning, the second ship to bear the name. The five brothers, Joseph, Francis, Albert, Madison, and George became national heroes and the subject of a Hollywood movie, "*The Fighting Sullivans*," and had a destroyer, USS SULLIVANS (DD 537), named for them.

Events that recognize the contributions of enlisted Sailors have a special meaning for me. I am reminded, each and every time, that the majority of our people have little knowledge of this rich heritage of leadership, honor and integrity. The MCPON has established a reading list in an effort to encourage the enlisted community to increase their knowledge and professionalism by learning more about those who came before us. I believe he is right on the money. The Navy of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will demand that our Sailors be more than competent technicians. They must be, first and foremost, SAILORS.

Our newest Sailors enter the Navy with high expectations and the desire to be part of a winning team. They are looking for role models to emulate and heroes to respect. By learning more about the contributions of

enlisted Sailors, I am convinced that they will form a stronger bond to the service and their profession.

## **MEDAL OF HONOR**

The Navy Medal of Honor is the oldest continuously awarded medal. Established during the Civil War and later adopted by the U. S. Army, it is now known simply as the Medal of Honor. From 1865 to 1915 only enlisted were eligible to receive this award. Forty-four Chief Petty Officers have earned this award, the first in 1871 and the last in 1942. Three Medals of Honor were awarded for actions performed during the attack on Pearl Harbor – two of them posthumously. One CPO was awarded the medal twice. By the time that this issue of SITREP goes to press, I will have attended a ceremony at the CPO Club at NAB Little Creek. A plaque bearing the names of those Chief Petty Officers will be dedicated in what will be known as the Medal of Honor Room.

## **WHAT IF YOU WERE CNO**

During the SURFLANT Sailor of the Year selection process the question that is always asked is, "If you were the CNO for one day what would you do or change?" I have heard some pretty unique responses to that one. If I were asked that question today my response would be that I'd name every ship in the future SC-21 class after enlisted Sailors. Ordinary people who through extraordinary circumstances conducted themselves with honor, courage, commitment, leadership, integrity, and compassion.

## **CONCLUSION**

We have much to be proud of in the Navy. Those of us who are senior have a sacred obligation to pass on the history of our service to our reliefs. We are a service that is defined by our customs, traditions, and heritage. The voyage into the 21<sup>st</sup> century will be along a well-charted course with our eyes on the horizon. Let's remember the importance of the aft lookout however – it's always nice to know how far you've come and what you've left behind.



### **From My Perspective . . .**

BZ to DCCM(SW) Bob Conklin, SURFLANT Force Master Chief, for a great commentary. I encourage each of you to write down the thoughts which are provoked during commissioning, change of command, retirement ceremonies or just on a quiet watch. Share them with your shipmates, they can't help but promote pride and camaraderie.

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# ***The "Navy Hymn"***

## ***Eternal Father, Strong to Save***

*(Information from The Presbyterian Hymnal Companion by LindaJo H. McKim, Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville, Kentucky, 1993)*

The "Navy Hymn" is *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*. The original words were written as a poem in 1860 by William Whiting of Winchester, England, for a student who was about to sail for the United States. The melody, published in 1861, was composed by fellow Englishman, Rev. John Bacchus Dykes, an Episcopalian clergyman.

The hymn, found in most hymnals, is known as the "Navy Hymn" because it is sung at the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. It is also sung on ships of the Royal Navy (U. K.) and has been translated into French.

Eternal Father was the favorite hymn of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and was sung at his funeral in Hyde Park, New York, in April 1945. It was also played by the Navy Band in 1963 as President John F. Kennedy's body was carried up the steps of the U. S. Capitol to lie in state. Roosevelt had served as Secretary of the Navy and Kennedy was a PT boat commander in World War II.

The original words are:

### **VERSE 1:**

ETERNAL FATHER, STRONG TO SAVE,  
WHOSE ARM HATH BOUND THE RESTLESS WAVE,  
WHO BIDD'ST THE MIGHTY OCEAN DEEP  
ITS OWN APPOINTED LIMITS KEEP;  
OH, HEAR US WHEN WE CRY TO THEE,  
FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA!

### **VERSE 2:**

O CHRIST! WHOSE VOICE THE WATERS HEARD  
AND HUSHED THE RAGING AT THY WORD,  
WHO WALKED'ST ON THE FOAMING DEEP,  
AND CALM AMIDST ITS RAGE DIDST SLEEP;  
OH, HEAR US WHEN WE CRY TO THEE,  
FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA!

### **VERSE 3:**

MOST HOLY SPIRIT! WHO DIDST BROOD  
UPON THE CHAOS DARK AND RUDE,  
AND BID ITS ANGRY TUMULT CEASE,  
AND GIVE, FOR WILD CONFUSION, PEACE;  
OH, HEAR US WHEN WE CRY TO THEE,  
FOR THOSE IN PERIL ON THE SEA!

### **VERSE 4:**

O TRINITY OF LOVE AND POWER!  
OUR BRETHREN SHIELD IN DANGER'S HOUR;  
FROM ROCK AND TEMPEST, FIRE AND FOE,  
PROTECT THEM WHERESOEVER THEY GO;  
THUS EVERMORE SHALL RISE TO THEE  
GLAD HYMNS OF PRAISE FROM LAND AND SEA.

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# One Navy - Many Hymns

Many additional verses have been authored over the years. Most are designed to appeal to specific elements of our great Navy. They may be appropriate for your special event. Here are a few with the author and date of composition noted.

LORD, GUARD AND GUIDE THE MEN FLY  
THROUGH THE GREAT SPACES IN THE SKY.  
BE WITH THEM ALWAYS IN THE AIR,  
IN DARKENING STORMS OR SUNLIGHT FAIR;  
OH, HEAR US WHEN WE LIFT OUR PRAYER,  
**FOR THOSE IN PERIL IN THE AIR!**  
Mary C. D. Hamilton (1915)

ETERNAL FATHER, GRANT, WE PRAY,  
TO ALL MARINES, BOTH NIGHT AND DAY,  
THE COURAGE, HONOR, STRENGTH, AND SKILL  
THEIR LAND TO SERVE, THY LAW FULFILL;  
BE THOUGH THE SHIELD FOREVERMORE  
**FROM EVERY PERIL TO THE CORPS.**  
J. E. Seim (1966)

LORD, STAND BESIDE THE MEN WHO BUILD,  
AND GIVE THEM COURAGE, STRENGTH, AND SKILL.  
O GRANT THEM PEACE OF HEART AND MIND,  
AND COMFORT LOVED ONES LEFT BEHIND.  
**LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYERS FOR ALL SEABEES,**  
WHERE'ER THEY BE ON LAND OR SEA.  
R. J. Dietrich (1960)

LORD GOD, OUR POWER EVERMORE,  
WHOSE ARM DOTHS REACH THE OCEAN FLOOR,  
**DIVE WITH OUR MEN BENEATH THE SEA;**  
TRAVERSE THE DEPTH PROTECTIVELY.  
O HEAR US WHEN WE PRAY, AND KEEP  
THEM SAFE FROM PERIL IN THE DEEP.  
David B. Miller (1965)

O GOD, PROTECT **THE WOMEN WHO,**  
**IN SERVICE,** FAITH IN THEE RENEW;  
O GUIDE DEVOTED HANDS OF SKILL  
AND BLESS THEIR WORK WITHIN THY WILL;  
INSPIRE THEIR LIVES THAT THEY MAY BE  
EXAMPLES FAIR ON LAND AND SEA.  
Lines 1-4, Merle E. Strickland (1972) and  
adapted by James D. Shannon (1973)  
Lines 5-6, Beatrice M. Truitt (1948)

CREATOR, FATHER, WHO DOST SHOW  
THY SPLENDOR IN THE ICE AND SNOW,  
BLESS THOSE WHO TOIL IN SUMMER LIGHT  
AND THROUGH THE COLD ANTARCTIC NIGHT,  
AS THEY THY FROZEN WONDERS LEARN;  
**BLESS THOSE WHO WAIT FOR THEIR RETURN.**  
L. E. Vogel (1965)

ETERNAL FATHER, LORD OF HOSTS,  
WATCH O'ER THE MEN WHO GUARD OUR COASTS.  
PROTECT THEM FROM THE RAGING SEAS  
AND GIVE THEM LIGHT AND LIFE AND PEACE.  
GRANT THEM FROM THY GREAT THRONE ABOVE  
THE SHIELD AND SHELTER OF THY LOVE.  
Author Unknown

ETERNAL FATHER, KING OF BIRTH,  
WHO DIDST CREATE THE HEAVEN AND EARTH,  
AND BID THE PLANETS AND THE SUN  
THEIR OWN APPOINTED ORBITS RUN;  
O HEAR US WHEN WE SEEK THY GRACE  
**FROM THOSE WHO SOAR THROUGH OUTER SPACE.**  
J. E. Votonte (1961)

CREATOR, FATHER, WHO FIRST BREATHED  
IN US THE LIFE THAT WE RECEIVED,  
BY POWER OF THY BREATH RESTORE  
THE ILL, AND MEN WITH WOUNDS OF WAR.  
**BLESS THOSE WHO GIVE THEIR HEALING CARE,**  
THAT LIFE AND LAUGHTER ALL MAY SHARE.  
Galen H. Meyer (1969)  
Adapted by James D. Shannon (1970)

GOD, WHO DOST STILL THE RESTLESS FOAM,  
PROTECT THE ONES WE LOVE AT HOME.  
PROVIDE THAT THEY SHOULD ALWAYS BE  
BY THINE OWN GRACE BOTH SAFE AND FREE.  
O FATHER, HEAR US WHEN WE PRAY  
FOR THOSE WE LOVE SO FAR AWAY.  
Hugh Taylor (date unknown)

**LORD, GUARD AND GUIDE THE MEN WHO FLY**  
**AND THOSE WHO ON THE OCEAN PLY'**  
BE WITH OUR TROOPS UPON THE LAND,  
AND ALL WHO FOR THEIR COUNTRY STAND:  
BE WITH THESE GUARDIANS DAY AND NIGHT  
AND MAY THEIR TRUST BE IN THY MIGHT.  
Author Unknown (1955)

O FATHER, KING OF EARTH AND SEA,  
**WE DEDICATE THIS SHIP TO THEE.**  
IN FAITH WE SEND HER ON HER WAY;  
IN FAITH TO THEE WE HUMBLLY PRAY:  
O HEAR FROM HEAVEN OUR SAILOR'S CRY  
AND WATCH AND GUARD HER FROM ON HIGH!  
Author/date Unknown

**AND WHEN AT LENGTH HER COURSE IS RUN,**  
**HER WORK FOR HOME AND COUNTRY DONE,**  
**OF ALL THE SOULS THAT IN HER SAILED**  
**LET NOT ONE LIFE IN THEE HAVE FAILED;**  
**BUT HEAR FROM HEAVEN OUR SAILOR'S CRY,**  
**AND GRANT ETERNAL LIFE ON HIGH!**  
Author/date Unknown

# 'Old Ironsides' Sails Again

## Courage Is The Tallest Mast

USS Constitution, the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat, celebrated her 200<sup>th</sup> birthday, setting sail under her own power July 21<sup>st</sup> for the first time in 116 years.

Better known as 'Old Ironsides,' she is an 18<sup>th</sup> century frigate manned by a 21<sup>st</sup> century crew – a superb example of the lasting quality of workmanship, professionalism and dedication of our Navy and a national treasure!! It was a high honor and privilege to accompany the Secretary and the CNO on this historic sail. I consider myself as representing the Sailors everywhere who could not come and will share some important facts of USS Constitution history in each "Direct Line."

BMC(SW) Joe Wilson served as 'Chief of the Ship' for the last two years as the ships crew completed long months of arduous training culminated in the historic sail. Crew members climbed the rigging like seasoned tall ship Sailors, and put Old Ironsides through her paces. During the sail, BMC(SW) Wilson is the 'Captain of the Deck,' calling out precise orders for the crew. He also left an indelible mark on Constitution when he named each of the three masts for the Naval Core Values of Honor, Courage and Commitment. On the day of the sail a pennant proclaiming these Core Values flew proudly atop each mast. Courage, the midships station, is the tallest mast.

For this historic sailing, USS Constitution was towed from Boston to Marblehead, 17 miles north of Boston, to stage the ship in Massachusetts Bay. She fired both port and starboard batteries during the historic sailing and as the smoke cleared, the Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron – the Blue Angels – flew over the sailing ship. USS Ramage (DDG 61) and USS Halyburton (FFG 40) rendered honors and sailed along side.

The Navy's oldest warship also contains some of the most modern equipment. During the sail, a computer lab equipped with the Program for Afloat College Education (PACE) was unveiled. Computer delivered college courses are now accessible for those serving onboard Constitution. Fittingly, the crews first course is "Adventures in American History 101," offered on CD-Rom.

The Constitution is now a part of the curriculum at the Senior Enlisted Academy. The objective of the Saturday visit onboard is to become familiar with the rich heritage of this fine ship and to support the extensive Naval Heritage learning objectives throughout the SEA curriculum.

BMC(SW) Wilson soon reports to Chatham Annex, Williamsburg, Virginia, and has passed on responsibilities as 'Chief of the Ship' to QMC(SW) Danny Nicholson, who was also onboard for the cruise.



US Navy photo by JO2 Todd Stevens.



QMC(SW)NICHOLSON



BMC(SW) WILSON

# ***"Anchors Aweigh"***

## ***Service Song Is A Great Mission Statement***

STAND, NAVY, OUT TO SEA, FIGHT, OUR BATTLE CRY;

WE'LL NEVER CHANGE OUR COURSE, SO VICIOUS FOE STEER SHY-Y-Y-Y

(PRONOUNCED AYE-AYE-AYE)

ROLL OUT THE TNT, ANCHORS AWEIGH. SAIL ON TO VICTORY

AND SINK THEIR BONES TO DAVY JONES, HOORAY!

ANCHORS AWEIGH, MY BOYS, ANCHORS AWEIGH.

FAREWELL TO FOREIGN SHORES, WE SAIL AT BREAK OF DAY, OF DAY

(PRONOUNCED DAY-AY)

THROUGH OUT LAST NIGHT ON SHORE, DRINK TO THE FOAM,

UNTIL WE MEET ONCE MORE, HERE'S WISHING YOU A HAPPY VOYAGE HOME.

BLUE OF THE MIGHTY DEEP; GOLD OF GOD'S GREAT SUN,

LET THESE OUR COLORS BE TILL ALL OF TIME BE DONE, BE DONE

(PRONOUNCED DUH-UN)

ON SEVEN SEAS WE LEARN NAVY'S STERN CALL:

FAITH, COURAGE, SERVICE TRUE, WITH HONOR, OVER HONOR, OVER ALL.



### **From My Perspective . . .**

Our service song, "Anchors Aweigh," is also a great mission statement, a wonderful summary of our values and speaks boldly to the unique adventure and enviable lifestyle we enjoy. Do more than learn the words, study them, understand them and appreciate them. Stand crisply each time it is played. **Stop** playing "Anchors Aweigh" when it is inappropriate, especially during receptions when people are socializing, when ceremonies are ending and people are being dismissed and as a part of martial music medley..

**WRITE THE PROTOCOL INTO THE PROGRAM.**



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20350-2000**

IN RESPONSE REFER TO

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR CLAIMANT STAFF CHAPLAINS

Subj: FOCUS 25/97 RECOGNITION OF NEW CHIEF PETTY OFFICERS & FAMILIES

1. I am initiating a practice which I expect will be carried out annually for many seasons to come: that every chapel community welcome and celebrate Chief Petty Officer selectees in ways which will strengthen excellent CPO traditions and build our Navy heritage.
2. I am asking you to contact all command chaplains and, collaborating with their Command Master Chiefs, have them offer either special worship events, or opportunities in regular worship services to recognize new CPOs and thank God for them and their loved ones.
3. CPO's responsibilities and leadership require not only health of body and mind, but also of spirit. General George C. Marshall once said, "I look upon the spiritual life of the soldier as even more important than. . . physical equipment. . . The soldier's heart, the soldier's spirit, the soldier's soul are everything. . . It's morale—and I mean spiritual morale—which wins the victory in the ultimate, and that type of morale can only come out of the religious nature of the soldier who knows God and who has the spirit of religious fervor in his soul."

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D.K. Muchow".

D.K. MUCHOW  
Chief of Chaplains



Copy to:

CNO (N097B, N097C, N097A, N097R, N0971, N972, N973)



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF CHAPLAINS**  
 WASHINGTON, DC 20370

IN RESPONSE REFER TO

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWEST CHIEFS!**

Yogi Berra has said, "The future ain't what it used to be."

In our Navy so much has changed in this decade that our future will be very different. One of the good differences involves Chief Petty Officer Initiations. To welcome, train, inform and celebrate CPO selectees in ways which strengthen excellent CPO traditions and build our Navy heritage serves us well.

I can't sit only on the sidelines and applaud. Instead, the Chaplain Corps and I want to join in the change. This month I am asking all Navy Chaplains worldwide, to collaborate with Command Master Chiefs and offer either special worship events, or opportunities in regular worship services to recognize new CPOs and thank God for them and their loved ones.

I expect this initiative to become part of the future which didn't used to be, a fixture for CPO Initiation seasons to come.

CPO's responsibilities and leadership require not only health of body and mind, but also of spirit. From the CPO reading lists many authors write of the spirit of humans which overcome life's most trying challenges. John Paul Jones, Admirals Chester Nimitz and VADM James Stockdale especially acknowledged the power of God to equip the naval warrior for all trials in peace and war.

General George C. Marshall once said, "I look upon the spiritual life of the soldier as even more important than . . . physical equipment . . . The soldier's heart, the soldier's spirit, the soldier's soul are everything . . . It's morale—and I mean spiritual morale—which wins the victory in the ultimate, and that type of morale can only come out of the religious nature of the soldier who knows God and who has the spirit of religious fervor in his soul."

A few years ago a Polish Army General said to me, "Chaplain, you know my wife and I were married in the woods. Our children were also baptized there. The Russians may have occupied our land, but they never conquered our faith of our spirit."

In the new dawn of democracy in Eastern Europe, the future for that general now "ain't what it used to be."

For Chief Petty Officers, old and new, who pay heed to the spirit along with the mind and body, their future, likewise, won't be what it used to be.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.K. Muchow".

D.K. MUCHOW  
 Chief of Chaplains

Whether planning a “Khaki Ball,” “Dining-In” or the CPO Advancement Ceremony, there are some trusted, proven, guiding sign posts to follow to consistently arrive at PRIDE. “PRIDE” is the reason for the event, it is the goal of the celebration and it is the fuel for the work which precedes it. Proud, thoughtful moments are not achieved simply by scheduling a slot for them to occur.

**PLAN** – a committee chaired by an experienced Chief is a necessary prerequisite to achieving a memorable ceremony or program. The starting point straw man may be last years plan or the program from another event, but in any case, one purpose of the planning is to improve it.

**REHEARSE** – several walk throughs and rehearsals are necessary. All players must be represented and every part of the program rehearsed. The sound system tested, the color guard route walked, the catering obligations confirmed, the program approved, refined and printed. Locate and record the locations of light switches, dimmers, exhaust fan blower switches, etc.

**REVISE** – Planning and rehearsal ultimately lead to revisions, additions, deletions and improvements. You are pursuing the best possible program and a tight professional execution of the ceremony. Revise as necessary to achieve it.

**IMAGINATION** – It is not incompatible with tradition to vary the program a little to achieve specific results. The reading of a patriotic poem prior to the parading of the colors (see “The Flag Goes By,” page 23 for a sample). The choice of gifts for honored guests

**P** Plan

**R** Rehearse  
Revise

**I** Imagination

**D** Detail

**E** Excellence  
on Display

and the manner of presentation is open to imagination. The choice of a theme for the event, presentation of the first dance, use of side boys, ceremonial escorts, the choice of souvenirs for the evening, etc. There are unlimited places to use the imagination and display ingenuity.

**ATTENTION TO DETAIL** – This is the real key to a smooth, impressive, proud event. Assumption is the enemy of detail and it is the lazy way out. For example, you may assume that “everyone knows how to toast,” and then discover the truth, everyone does not know.

**EXCELLENCE** – all the planning, rehearsal, imagination and detail come together to achieve **excellence**. When the successful event is complete, and the photographs distributed and news reports clipped, everyone whose hard work contributed to the event will have a souvenir in addition to the engraved wine glass or commemorative coin. They will have a lasting satisfaction of a job well done and the gratitude of all in attendance. To paraphrase one poet, “. . .

SPEND ALL YOU HAVE FOR EXCELLENCE  
BUY IT AND NEVER COUNT THE COST  
FOR ONE SHARED MOMENT OF SOUL  
SEARING PRIDE,  
COUNT MANY A MONTH OF TOIL WELL  
LOST.

**PEOPLE MAY NOT BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU SAY, BUT THEY WILL BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU DO. Do IT PROUDLY!**

# Doing It Proudly -

## For A Proud Celebration – Adhere To The Basics

**UNIFORM:** Make the requirement clear. Don't compromise the appropriate uniform requirement. Don't even consider allowing civilian clothes to "appeal to younger Sailors." This thinking is defeatist and backwards. Instead, do not hesitate to prescribe mess dress for E7 and above and encourage E6 and below to wear mess dress. Many younger Sailors have purchased this optional uniform and wear it with great pride to formal occasions. Every Sailor must have miniature medals. During the event, correct discrepancies discretely. Don't ignore them, or they will be back next year. It is unnecessarily embarrassing to see a Chief with miniature medals and ribbons or miniature medals and a regular tie.

Stop the trend to "give the women an opportunity to wear their civilian finery." Female Sailors are Sailors. The "S" in Sailor is capitalized for PRIDE. The reason for a Navy Day Ball/Sub Ball/Seabee Ball, etc. is PRIDE. Wear the appropriate uniform proudly. Don't make concessions to convenience or wrong headed thinking. Finally, make it clear to everyone that the complete uniform is worn all evening. Don't permit coats, ties and cumberbunds to come off when the dancing starts. AND, don't allow the non-regulation cumberbunds, suspenders, etc., which some think cute.

**PROGRAMS/SCRIPTS:** A good, well written program will include brief explanations of traditional events, proper responses to specific formal toasts and to general toasts offered from the floor (for example, one may rise to offer a toast and make lengthy remarks to the Chief of Naval Operations, referring to him by rank and name and superlatives, but the proper response is "to the Chief of Naval Operations"). For example, for unscripted toasting, the proper response may be listed as "Hear, hear," or the program may instruct all present to follow the lead of the mess president or MC in responding to toasts. Attention to detail in the publicity, program, script, decorations and every part of the planning and execution is crucial to achieving a memorable moment of shared pride. The choice of a Maser of Ceremonies (MC) is important. In addition to a good speaking voice, the MC must have a perfect military demeanor and good poise. The MC must follow the script. Too much ad libbing or any talking to members of the audience detracts from the dignity of the event. The MC, together with the honored guests and others on the program, must set the tone for the evening and keep it proud.

**MUSIC/DITTIES:** Music can make a differ-



*A sharp, formal uniform helps makes a formal occasion something truly special.*

ence. The most indispensible music for any event is our service song, "Anchors Aweigh." Make it part of the ceremony and render the honors it deserves. Print the words in the program, have a talented singer (there is always one waiting to be asked). Lead all hands in a rousing rendition of "Anchors Aweigh." Consider obtaining a bagpiper. . . use the piper creatively. . . throughout the evening. Play the "Navy Hymn" softly in the background during the invocation and benediction. Good planning includes specially prepared ditties and use of some of the old tried and true passages (see "*Spinning A Yarn*," page 21) for a sample of a great old ditty which can be "modified" as appropriate or used as is).

**ALCOHOL USE:** Alcohol abuse has ruined great evenings.

**There is nothing wrong with making it inconvenient to drink too much – and everything right about ensuring that no one does.**

Someone is always in charge . . . make sure they take charge. Address the first sign of intoxication discreetly, but firmly and it may well be the last sign. Some are looking for discipline – give it to them. Cash bars during receptions are a good way to keep ticket prices down and are guaranteed to reduce alcohol consumption without dampening any one's spirit. Don't spend mess funds or MWR funds on open bars or "all you can drink" events. It isn't smart or fair to those who don't

**"Doing It Proudly" continued on page 14**

# Doing It Proudly

drink and it isn't necessary. Don't refill wine decanters on tables. At the final toast, circulate a wine waiter to charge glasses. Make sure there is plenty of variety in alternative, non-alcoholic beverages.

**DETAIL:** Seating charts, place cards, lounge and Ballroom decorations, and every detail of the evening is worth a thorough effort. Assign each tasking to a specific person.

**FUNDRAISING:** To offset ticket prices or to provide amenities should begin at least eight months out. For an "All Hands" event, involve every organization in the command: CPO Mess, Petty Officer Association, Spouses Clubs and other affiliated organizations. Those who work hard in support of the event will come prepared to enjoy it. Involve as many spouses and civilian members of the command as possible. Invite civilian friends of the Navy from the community, too. Recognize them in the program by asking them to stand for a round of applause.

**EVENT SOUVE-**

**NIRS:** Plan ahead far enough and be creative and you can sometimes make this item pay for itself. A handsome commemorative coin can be designed and additional coins sold. If the command logo/or mission are proudly featured on one surface and the theme of the ball or event is inscribed on the other side, the coin will be desirable as a presentation to other shipmates.



*CTOCM John Phillips, Command Master Chief, Office of Naval Intelligence, offers a toast to commemorate the Chief Petty Officer birthday dining-in.*

## ***Let's Hear Your Ideas***

Through your years of experience, I am certain you have learned many "do's" and "do not's" for formal events. Share them with me and I will be able to pass them on in a future edition of "Direct Line." What made your last Ball, Dining-In, Dining-Out or special event successful? Give me the details and I will share it with the Fleet. Any format, send it in smooth or rough by e-mail, fax or mail. Check the mailing address, e-mail address and fax numbers on page 2.

# HONOR, COURAGE, COMMITMENT

## Some Thoughts On The Character Of Service Unchanged For 200 Years

IN AN AGE OF FOPS AND TOYS,  
WANTING WISDOM, VOID OF RIGHT  
WHO SHALL NERVE HEROIC BOYS  
TO HAZARD ALL IN FREEDOM'S FIGHT, -  
BREAK SHARPLY OFF THEIR JOLLY GAMES,  
FORSAKE THEIR COMRADES GAY  
AND QUIT PROUD HOMES AND YOUTHFUL DAMES  
FOR FAMINE, TOIL AND FRAY?

YET ON THE NIMBLE AIR BENIGN  
SPEED NIMBLER MESSAGES  
THAT WAFT THE BREATH OF GRACE DIVINE  
TO HEARTS IN SLOTH AND EASE.  
*SO NIGH IS GRANDEUR TO OUR DUST*  
*SO NEAR IS GOD TO MAN,*  
*WHEN DUTY WHISPERS LOW, THOU MUST,*  
*THE YOUTH REPLIES, I CAN.*

RALPH WALDO EMERSON



### From My Perspective . . .

Leaders from every walk of life have always struggled with the values which guides the endeavors of men.. Reams have been written about the subject of values and character – novelists, essayists, theologians, and poets have written about the concept of duty. At the very dawn of our life as a nation Ralph Waldo Emerson penned this poem. The last lines of the excerpt printed here are often quoted. They capture the profound spiritual aspects of honor, courage and commitment as they relate to sacrifice and duty.

**The positive tone and patriotic optimism of Emerson's  
conclusion is well worth a moments meditation.**

# USS NASSAU's Crossing The Line *A Great Experience!*



MCPON Hagan,

As I promised, here is a synopsis of how the good ship NASSAU did our crossing the line ceremony on 5 May 1997. First of all, I gave the ship's Captain, Captain Al Wall, complete cognizance for the ceremony and asked only that we make it clean, keep as much tradition as possible and eliminate anything which could be construed as demeaning or hazing. He and the crew of NASSAU did a super job and the ceremony was a complete success.

We commenced 4 May with a flightdeck picnic and beer day, which came after 45 days on Simba Station off the coast of Congo/Zaire. Beer day ended at 1600 and no beer was allowed to leave the flight deck. Later that evening we mustered the trusty shellbacks in the focsle to judge who amongst the pollywogs could serve as Queen Amphitrite. Contestants were told not to do or say anything lewd or offensive and their costumes were well done, tasteful and showed a lot of resourcefulness and imagination for being off the coast of Congo over a month.

The next event was the arrival of Davy Jones and King Neptunes Court followed by a talent show. Wogs danced to the tune of YMCA and the festivities were enjoyed by all. Davy and the court departed via the aft elevator only to arrive at 0600 the next morning for Wog breakfast. All foods were good, healthy entries, freshly prepared that morning especially for the Wogs. Examples: oatmeal was gruel, spinach was seaweed, fresh sardines and canned oysters, sliced eggs with the yoke dyed black substituted for shark eyes. Starfish were represented by a fresh baked biscuit in the shape of a star. (Quite good actually), etc.

The Wogs were then mustered on the hangar bay and subsequently marched up to the flight deck singing the dirge of the wicked witch of the East's palace guards in the "Wizard of Oz," "Ooh-we-oooh, ooh, ooh." Notice, no non-skid crawling. Here they were greeted by King Neptunis Rex in all his glory along with the entire court. They enjoyed watching as the first set of Wogs, officer Wogs, went through the rigors of the Royal Dentist, the Royal Barber, the Royal Baby (who simply put clean lard on their faces), the food chute (with all clean, freshly cooked rice, corn, spinach, etc.). The stockade where they were instructed in Shellback poetry: "My Mother was a Mermaid and I was born on the crest of a wave." They then went to the cleansing tank and dove in to become trusty Shellbacks, were presented to King Neptune and the court. Some did unfortunately have to go through twice, but so did I in 1984 on USS ENTERPRISE.

All in all, the entire ceremony was great fun and enjoyed by all who participated.

My thoughts after the ceremony are this: we were right in having the ceremony. We should not act in haste and discard it as more worthless traditional baggage, but preserve the good and fun parts of the ceremony rather than react to the sometimes sensationalistic headlines. We must take out that which is demeaning and keep those things which tie us to our seafaring heritage.

Why should we do this? As surely as we are guardians of our country's freedom, we are just as surely guardians and trustees of our Naval Heritage. Our Nation and our Navy are steeped in history and this is where we find our spirit and our historical focus.

*Rob us of our history and our traditions and you rob us of our spirit.  
Those who seek to quantify and qualify our every endeavor will find it difficult to quantify our spirit.*

All they will see is that we have it and we demonstrate it every day. If we lose the traditions which foster that spirit, it will be easy then to quantify a spiritless monolithic Navy which simply goes through the motions. Despite all the political pressures to do otherwise, we must not let this happen. We have been able to preserve and I believe enhance the Chiefs Initiation Ceremony, certainly we can do the same for the ageless ceremony on Crossing the Equator, preserving another part of our Naval Heritage. If we do not, we will lose the ties which bind us to our past and our sacred heritage. We cannot and must not let this happen.

Commodore Kenny Golden  
COMPHIBRON EIGHT

# ***"Human Nature Clings To Life In The Preservation Of Traditions For The United States Sailor"***

**by MCPON Del Black, USN(Ret)  
First Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy**



*MCPON Del Black was onboard USS Maryland (BB 46) December 7, 1941 during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. This vintage World War II photo is reprinted from "Brotherhood of the Sea," the story of the Fleet Reserve Association.*

One of the most memorable occasions while serving aboard a U. S. Navy ship is the crossing of the equator. I experienced this special event for the first time on 12 November 1942 aboard USS MARYLAND (BB-46).

Prior to crossing the equator, *Shellbacks* spread all kinds of rumors about *Neptunus Rex* and *Davy Jones*, and what the *pollywogs* can expect upon their "conversion."

Days in advance of reaching the line, work by *Shellbacks* was noticeable throughout the ship. A respite from the war and its demanding alertness was a welcome relief for the crew.

Having someone refuse the initiation was never a question; the question was would anyone be denied the privilege of participating. This was a rite of passage issued by *King Neptunus* to all who sailed in his domain.

Scrubbing the deck in ankle chains, navigating the 30-foot slop chute, approaching the Royal Barber . . . all that was fun. But facing the Royal Doctor (Surgeon) with his electric knife, then things began to get serious. After a dump into "ye ol pool of sea water and garbage," you were ready for the royal entrance. You entered by crawling on hands and knees through a line of your shipmates who wielded various instruments of torture.

Facing the Royal Court was most impressive. The sentence: Kiss the Royal Baby's belly (always the fattest person on the ship – the cook, of course). This was a "real" experience after several months at sea.

***In my short one-and-a-half years in the Navy then, this tradition did more to bond the crew into a war-fighting machine than was ever thought possible.***

The *Shellback* Initiation can be fun and meaningful when conducted in a well-planned fashion and given the proper amount of supervision.

During my second crossing of the equator aboard ship, I was not only the Chief Master-At-Arms, but also *Davy Jones*. The *Independence* conducted an outstanding event.

It is my strong belief that initiations and traditions play a strong role in recognizing teamwork and leadership. You will note there is no "I" in teamwork.

In the final analysis we must work together, trust one another, treat each person as an individual and depend on that loyalty when the chips are down. ***My hope is that we maintain our traditions and build upon them for a stronger and more versatile Navy of tomorrow.***



*MCPON Black and MCPON Hagan were among those in attendance at the 1996 Fleet Reserve Association National Convention in Houston. This photo was taken by FRA Shipmate Ken Smith of Minneapolis, MN.*

# **USS Maryland**

## ***The Day After The Attack On Pearl Harbor***

The article on page 17 and the materials on pages 18-19 are graciously provided by MCPON Del Black, GMCM, USN(Ret.), the first Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy. MCPON Black retired from active duty on 1 April 1971, but has been continuously interested in and supportive of the active duty Navy. The article on page 17 was written in response to my request that he relate his wartime 'Crossing the Line' experience.

The following message on this page was originally sent on 8 December 1941, the day after the attack on Pearl Harbor. MCPON Del Black was a crewmember of *USS Maryland* in Pearl Harbor. He retained the message throughout his career and willingly shared it with us, along with the "Plan of the Day" featured on page 19 when *USS Maryland* was at war in the South Pacific.

**P15****U. S. S. MARYLAND****50/rgb****Pearl Harbor, T. H.****8 December, 1941****Notice To: ALL HANDS**

**The following message from the Commander-in-Chief,  
United States Pacific Fleet, is quoted herewith:**

**“FROM: CINCPAC****TO: ALL SHIPS**

**TO BE POSTED ON ALL BULLETIN BOARDS OF ALL SHIPS  
IN HARBOR X YOUR CONDUCT AND ACTION HAVE BEEN  
SPLENDID X WE TOOK A BLOW YESTERDAY X IT WILL  
NOT BE A SHORT WAR X WE WILL GIVE MANY HEAVY  
BLOWS TO THE JAPANESE X CARRY ON”**

**J.M. HAINES  
Commander, U. S. N.  
Executive Officer.**

---

U.S.S. MARYLAND  
ORDERS FOR THE DAY

RESTRICTED:

Monday, January 31, 1944.

Duty Commander:

Comdr. JONES

Duty Division:

3<sup>rd</sup>.

Duty Sections, Officers and crew:

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

Note 1. Washrooms will be open as circumstances permit.

Note 2. Observe utmost precautions to keep ship absolutely dark.

Note 3. All stations make sure that canteens are full of water prior to the coming action. Scuttlebutts will be turned off while under fire.

Note 4. All personnel are directed to take daily baths and wear clean clothing. Faces shall be well shaved. Men are urged to try to have daily bowel movements to keep the bowels empty. These measures will insure less infection and shorten convalescence in case of abdominal wounds and burns of the face and body.

Note 5. Save the emergency rations. Light snacks will be served during lulls in the firing.

Note 6. LET'S BLAST THOSE DEVILS BACK INTO HELL.

0000 General Quarters. Set Condition 1-Easy.

0200 Commence serving Breakfast, to be completed at 0400.

0400 Be prepared to counter battery fire.

0530 Flight Quarters.

0615-0630 Catapult 2 planes.

0645 Scheduled Bombardment.

0712 Sunrise. Light ship.

0930 Recover, reservice 2 planes.

1015 Flight Quarters.

1045 Catapult 2 planes.

1315 Recover 2 planes, reservice.

1415 Flight Quarters.

1445 Catapult 1 plane. Have second one ready if required.

1715 Recover planes.

1800 Be prepared to repel evening air attacks after sunset



A.S. McDILL,  
Commander, U.S. Navy,  
Executive Officer

**As you peruse these documents, preserved by MCPON Del Black and gladly shared, think of the hardships endured by Sailors who went before us. Their story is our heritage, a heritage of valor, duty and sacrifice. A heritage of proud service in difficult times. A legacy we must safeguard and pass on intact.**

# A Charge To The Chiefs

**From EMCM(SW) Jose Ruiz-Osuna  
Command Master Chief, SIMA, Mayport**



## From My Perspective . . .

Recently, on 11 July, EMCM(SW) Jose Ruiz-Osuna, CMC of SIMA Mayport, retired after 29 years of active duty. His ceremony was well done. It provided many opportunities for all in attendance to reflect for a moment on not only the career being saluted, but on their own lives as Sailors and as husbands, wives, fathers or mothers. Master Chief Ruiz-Osuna passed a set of his Chief, Senior Chief and Master Chief anchors to special shipmates who are working toward advancement to those rates. He graciously thanked his family, his shipmates past and present and he spoke to the Chiefs Mess. **His love for our nation and of our Navy was inspirationally evident throughout the ceremony.** I am very pleased to share an excerpts from his remarks, centered on his charge to the Chiefs . . .

“For 29 years I waited for this day. Now, it is finally here . . . time has indeed gone by fast. I had just turned 18 years old, a high school graduate, weighed 115 pounds, had a waist of 22 inches and had a lot of hair on my head. Today, the only difference is that I am 47 years old, a college graduate, weigh 185 pounds, my waist is 36 inches and I lost most of my hair all over the world. How time flies when you’re having fun.

One of the most interesting moments in my career was making Chief. It made a big change in my life, even my name changed. Things went from “No way Jose” to “Yes Chief.” This was a very special time for me. Making Chief was the most important thing in my career. It was an accomplishment, a goal fulfilled. It meant more responsibility and there was more demanded of me. It meant higher standards of performance. A new sense of duty which made me do things not because I had to do it, but because it had to be done, and because it was my duty to do it. My fellow Chief Petty Officers, remember that being a Chief Petty Officer is a position of special trust. It means that you are the professional, that you are qualified, competent, and reliable.

**Don’t ever, and I mean never, lower your standards simply because you feel that you have special privileges.**

Remember, you are the one that must know the Core Values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. You must know them because you must teach them to the young ones. Have the courage and commitment to maintain high standards of attitude, performance and appearance. Live up to the standards of a Chief Petty Officer, and you will find that everyone will follow you, especially those that will be making Chief very soon . . . you must do something every day, to better yourself, personally and professionally. Set your goals and reach them, for you can. They are your goals. You are the only one that can reach them.

I came in the Navy as a recruit, with a high school diploma, and today, I retire as a Master Chief Petty Officer with a bachelors degree . . . I will remind you again, you can do it, too. It is all up to you, just make sure you are doing something to better yourself personally and professionally, every day.

**I say to you ‘Don’t waste your time wondering, what is in it for you. Use your time wisely to help make life better for you and for your shipmates.’**

Better yourself, and teach others to do the same.”

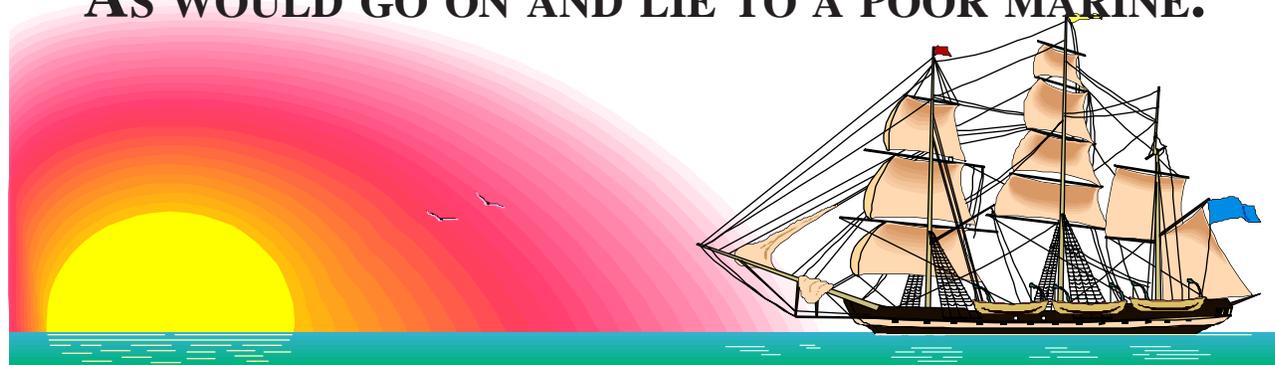
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# SPINNING A YARN

HE TOOK THE ANCHOR ON HIS BACK  
AND LEAPED INTO THE MAIN;  
THROUGH FOAM AND SPRAY HE CLOVE HIS WAY,  
AND SUNK AND ROSE AGAIN!

THROUGH FOAM AND SPRAY, A LEAGUE AWAY  
THE ANCHOR STOUT HE BORE;  
TILL, SAFE AT LAST, HE MADE IT FAST  
AND WARPED THE SHIP ASHORE!

SUCH WAS THE TALE THAT WAS TOLD TO ME  
BY THAT MODEST AND TRUTHFUL SON OF THE SEA,  
FOR HE AIN'T LIKE SOME OF THE SWABS I'VE SEEN,  
AS WOULD GO ON AND LIE TO A POOR MARINE.



# 1997 Sailors Of The Year

The Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations meritoriously promoted the four Sailors of the Year to Chief Petty Officer in ceremonies at the Pentagon.

DTC(SW) Hazelann Kathleen Teamer, CNO Shore Sailor of the Year; AWC(AW/NAC) Robert W. Betts, Atlantic Fleet Sea Sailor of the Year; ETC(SS/AW) Bryan Christopher Robertson, Pacific Fleet Sea Sailor of the Year; and ETC(SS) Kevin Wade Hall, Naval Reserve Force Sailor of the Year; were selected from thousands of Sailors recognized by the Sailor of the Year program. This marks the 25<sup>th</sup> year since the inception of the program, which has grown from a backyard cookout to a system to recognize the outstanding work of thousands of Sailors throughout the Navy.

“We take the time to recognize the best we’ve got,” Admiral Jay L. Johnson, Chief of Naval Operations, said at the promotion ceremony in the Pentagon. “These Sailors represent the very finest of a field of nearly a half million.”

Admiral Johnson challenged the new Chiefs to make a difference.

“Being a Chief truly is something special,” the CNO told the Sailors of the Year. “Once you are a Chief, you are always going to be a Chief. I believe the Chief Petty Officer community is the very core of the Navy. How you perform sets our course and speed. It is a tremendous challenge, but more importantly, it is a once in a lifetime opportunity to make a difference.”

Secretary Dalton echoed the CNO’s comments noting that each of the Sailors of the Year are warfare qualified and set an excellent role model for all Sailors.

The best of the best were hand selected to represent the finest Sailors serving in the finest Navy in the world,” Secretary Dalton said. “As John Paul Jones, the father of our Navy, once said ‘Sailors mean more than guns in the rating of a ship.’ That is even more true today.”

DTC(SW) Teamer is a native of Trinidad, West Indies. She joined the Navy in 1984 and has served onboard USS Sierra (AD 18); at Naval Dental Clinic, Jacksonville; Branch Dental Clinic, Rota, Spain; and onboard USS Yellowstone (AD 41). She is currently the Section Chief, Comprehensive Dentistry Department at the Naval Dental School and will report for a two year tour in the MCPON office.

AWC(AW/NAC) Betts was born in Amsterdam, New York and entered the Navy in 1986. He has served with Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron ONE (HS 1), NAS Jacksonville; Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron FIFTEEN (HS 15), Jacksonville; Naval Aviation Technical Training Center, Millington, Tennessee; and has deployed with USS Forrestal (CV 59), USS America (CV 66), and USS LaSalle (AGF 3). He is currently assigned to Helicopter Antisubmarine Squadron ELEVEN (HS 11) homeported in Jacksonville. He will report for a two year tour in the office of the Atlantic Fleet Master Chief.

ETC(SS/AW) Robertson was born in St. Louis, Missouri and entered the Navy in 1985. He has served onboard USS Indianapolis (SSN 697), homeported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; the Naval Oceanography Command Detachment, NAS Miramar, San Diego; and his current command, USS Houston (SSN 713), homeported in San Diego. He will report for a two year tour of duty in the office of the Pacific Fleet Master Chief.

ETC(SS) Hall was born in the USAF Hospital, Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska. He spent most of his youth in Shreveport, Louisiana and entered the Navy in 1978. He served onboard USS Pogy (SSN 647) before affiliating with the Naval Reserves in 1987 at the Naval Reserve Facility, Pocatello, Idaho. He has also served at the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, and at his current location with the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.



*The Honorable John Dalton, Secretary of the Navy, meets the 1997 Sailors of the Year. From left to right, AWC(AW/NAC) Robert W. Betts, ETC(SS/AW) Bryan Christopher Robertson, Secretary Dalton, ETC(SS) Kevin Wade Hall, and DTC(SW) Hazelann Kathleen Teamer.*

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# The Flag Goes By

HENRY HOLCOMB BENNETT

HATS OFF!

ALONG THE STREET THERE COMES  
A BLARE OF BUGLES, A RUFFLE OF DRUMS,  
A FLASH OF COLOR BENEATH THE SKY:

HATS OFF!

THE FLAG IS PASSING BY!

BLUE AND CRIMSON AND WHITE IT SHINES,  
OVER THE STEEL-TIPPED, ORDERED LINES.

HATS OFF!

THE COLORS BEFORE US FLY;  
BUT MORE THAN THE FLAG IS PASSING BY.

*SEA-FIGHTS AND LAND-FIGHTS, GRIM AND GREAT,  
FOUGHT TO MAKE AND TO SAVE THE STATE:  
WEARY MARCHES AND SINKING SHIPS;  
CHEERS OF VICTORY ON DYING LIPS;*

DAYS OF PLENTY AND YEARS OF PEACE;  
MARCH OF A STRONG LAND'S SWIFT INCREASE;  
EQUAL JUSTICE, RIGHT AND LAW,  
STATELY HONOR AND REVEREND AWE;

*SIGN OF A NATION, GREAT AND STRONG  
TO WARD HER PEOPLE FROM FOREIGN WRONG:  
PRIDE AND GLORY AND HONOR, — ALL  
LIVE IN THE COLORS TO STAND OR FALL.*

HATS OFF!

ALONG THE STREET THERE COMES  
A BLARE OF BUGLES, A RUFFLE OF DRUMS;  
AND LOYAL HEARTS ARE BEATING HIGH:

HATS OFF!

THE FLAG IS PASSING BY!

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# Parting Thoughts

## Eight Bells

This measure of time originated in the days when a half-hour glass was used to tell off the four-hour watches. Each time the sand ran out, the ship's boy, whose job it was to reverse the glass, struck a bell to show he was attending to his business. Thus, eight times he turned the glass, and eight times struck the bell.

## A "Long" Shot

Here's a modern gambling term with an old nautical origin. Because ships' guns in early days were very inaccurate except at close quarters, it was only an extremely lucky shot that would hit the mark at any great distance, hence the inference of "luck" in the gambling term.

## *Salt From The Sea*

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